Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 03/17/2022 9:12:47 AM

BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT APPLICATION
For Fiscal Year 2022

Primary Applicant (Name and Address):	Applications MUST be UPLOADED to ERF via the Commission's website, http://psc.wi.gov/apps35/ERF_upload/content/mymenu.aspx. Refer to section 2.3 for detailed instructions. Applications are due and MUST be uploaded to ERF no later than: **March 17, 2022** at 4:00pm (16:00) Central Time. **Late applications will not be accepted.**
ComElec Services, Inc 4190 Pennsylvania Avenue #1 Dubuque, IA 52002	Contact for further information: PSCStatebroadbandoffice@wisconsin.gov
	Date: December 1, 2021

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is seeking applications for Broadband Expansion Grants. The Commission may award one or more grants during Fiscal Year 2022 to public and private entities that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in Wis. Stat. § 196.504. This grant round will be funded with bond proceeds authorized by the Wisconsin Building Commission pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). As such, successful applicants are subject to the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). Successful applicants will demonstrate a clear and achievable plan to improve broadband communications services in one or more underserved areas in the State.

Applicant Certification: In signing this application, the undersigned verifies under penalty of perjury that the Applicant and its employees and agents have not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement or participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competition with respect to this application; that no attempt has been made to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an application; that this application has been independently arrived at without collusion with any other proposer, competitor or potential competitor; that this application has not been knowingly disclosed prior to the opening of applications to any other applicant or competitor; that all of the responses and representations of Applicant in this application are true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information, and belief; and that Applicant agrees to, accepts, and will comply with all of the terms and conditions respecting this application and any award of a broadband expansion grant as may be established in a grant award Agreement.

Name of Authorized Representative (Type or Print)	Title	Phone
Tim Burbach	**President**	**(563) 556-6526**
Signature of Authorized Representative Timothy J. Burbach	Date **March 15, 2022**	

SUMMARY OF GRANT APPLICATION

Primary Applicant Name **ComElec Services, Inc**	Amount of Broadband Grant Request (round to nearest dollar) **$349,194**
Federal Employer Identification No. **42-1317843**	Amount of Matching Funds Pledged (round to nearest dollar) **$116,398**
Contact Name and Title **Tim Burbach, President**	Total Cost of Proposed Project (round to nearest dollar) **$465,592**
Telephone Number **563-556-6526**	Project Name **Lafayette County Broadband Technologies Upgrade**
E-mail Address(es) **TimBurbach@yousq.net**	Type of Proposed Broadband Service (FTTH, Cable, DSL, etc.) **Fixed Wireless**
Grant Manager, if different than Primary Applicant **Lafayette Development Corporation**	Type of Proposed Project (Last-mile, Middle-Mile, backbone, other) **Last-mile and Middle-mile**
Grant Manager Contact Name **Abby Haas**	Grant Manager Email Address and Telephone Number **abby.haas@lafayettecountywi.org; 608-776-4860**
If the application proposes a public-private partnership, list the names, addresses, and FEINs of the partner companies or organizations **Lafayette Development Corporation | 627 Washington Street Darlington, WI 53530 | 39-1938556** **Lafayette County | 627 Washington Street Darlington, WI 53530 | 39-6005711**	
Brief Project Description (2 sentences) **This project will install new fixed wireless technologies on existing ComElec tower sites in Lafayette County to provide 100x100 fixed wireless broadband to residential homes and businesses within underserved areas of Lafayette County.**	
Maximum Proposed Download Transmission Speed **100 Mbps**	Maximum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed **100 Mbps**
Minimum Proposed Download Speed to Customer Location **40 Mbps**	Minimum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed to Customer Location **20 Mbps**
County or Counties served by this project **Lafayette, portions of Grant, Green and Iowa**	Community or Communities served by this project **Cities: Darlington, Cuba City, Platteville, Shullsburg** **Villages: Belmont, Hazel Green** **Townships: Belmont, Seymour, Platteville, Wiota, Shullsburg, Waldwick, Kendall, Willow Springs, Shullsburg, Argyle**

List of the broadband service providers, if any, currently serving the area the applicant proposes to serve **ComElec, Bug Tussel, JC Wifi, CenturyLink, HughesNet, ViaSat Inc, Skycasters, Verizon Wireless, MediaCom, United States Cellular Corporation, Rise Broadband**	
Does proposed project serve an *unserved* area of the State, as defined in Section 1.4 of the application instruction? (yes/no) **Yes**	Is the Applicant certified as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community, or does the grant project propose to serve a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community? (yes/no) **Yes**
For last mile projects or component the expected number of Business Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total business locations passed or with new service access). **302**	For last mile projects or components the expected number of Residential Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total residential locations passed or with new service access). **3,226**
Of the improved business locations, how many locations are *unserved*? **Unknown**	Of the improved residential locations, how many are *unserved*? **233**
For providers that are eligible telecommunications carriers will the proposed broadband service be available to Lifeline customers? (yes/no) **N/A**	Are there any programs available for low-income households to access low-cost service or discounts? (yes/no) **No**
Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program? (yes/no) **No**	Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge? (yes/no) **No**
Did the internet service provider participate in the Public Service Commission's voluntary Broadband Coverage Data Collection in 2021? (yes/no) **Yes**	

FY22 Broadband Expansion Grant Application
Budget & Income Summary

Wisconsin Broadband Office

Please complete this form using Microsoft Excel. A PDF copy must be attached to your application as page four. In addition, this form must also be uploaded to ERF in Excel format.

Grant Summary

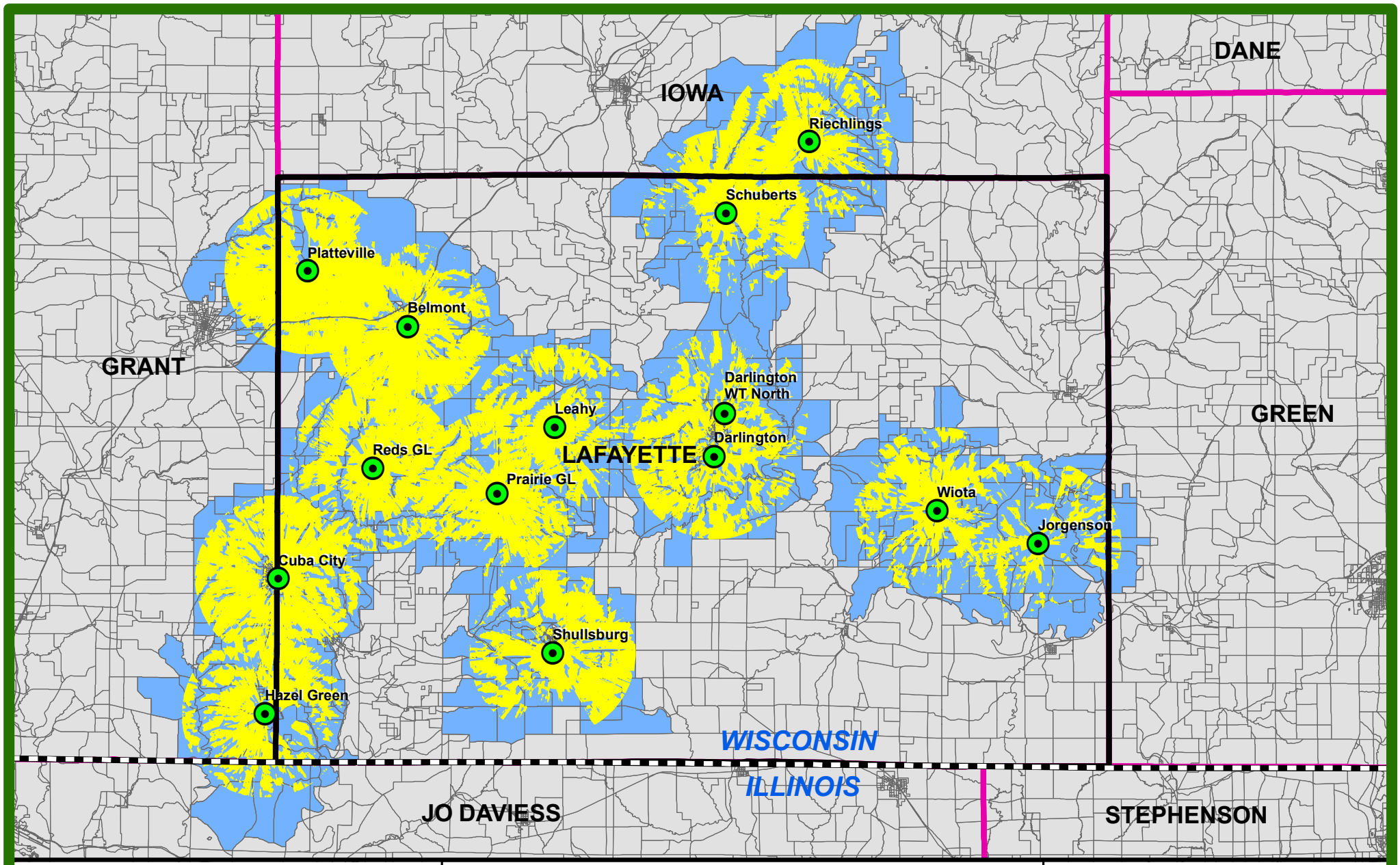
Grant Applicant:	Project:
ComElec Internet Services	Lafayette County Broadband Technologies Upgrade

Budget

Line:	Description / Category:	Grant Funds:	Match:	Total:
1	Contractual, Consultant Fees	$ -	$ -	$ -
2	Equipment	$ 287,858.88	$ 95,952.96	$ 383,811.84
3	Supplies	$ 44,535.19	$ 14,845.06	$ 59,380.25
4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)	$ 16,800.00	$ 5,600.00	$ 22,400.00
5	Permitting, Licensing Fees	$ -	$ -	$ -
6	Travel	$ -	$ -	$ -
7	Other	$ (1,000.00)	$ 1,000.00	$ -
	Total:	$ 348,194.07	$ 117,398.02	$ 465,592.09
		25.2% match requested		

Pledged Contributions

#:	Entity:	Entity Type:	Pledge Type:	Pledge:
1	Lafayette County	Partner	Cash	$ 500.00
2	Lafayette Development Corporation	Partner	Cash	$ 500.00
3	ComElec	Applicant	Cash	$ 116,398.02
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
			Total:	$ 117,398.02



Tower Locations

Proposed Project Coverage Area

Census Blocks that Intersect Proposed Project Area

All Other Census Blocks

Lafayette County Boundary

Other County Boundaries

State Boundary

Census Blocks within Proposed Project Coverage Area

N

0 2 4 8 Miles

Date: 7/20/2021
Sources: Lafayette County GIS, ComElec & SWWRPC Inventory

This map is not a survey of the actual boundary of any property this map depicts. This map is not a legally recorded map and is not intended to be one. SWWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

3.2 Mandatory application requirements

3.2.1 Applicant identification and contact information

a. **Applicant:**
ComElec Internet Services
4190 Pennsylvania Avenue #1
Dubuque, IA 52002
Tim Burbach
1 (563)-556-6526
timburbach@yousq.net

b. **Partners:**
Lafayette County
Attn: Abby Haas
627 Washington Street
Darlington, WI 53530
Abby.haas@lafayettecountywi.org
608-776-4860

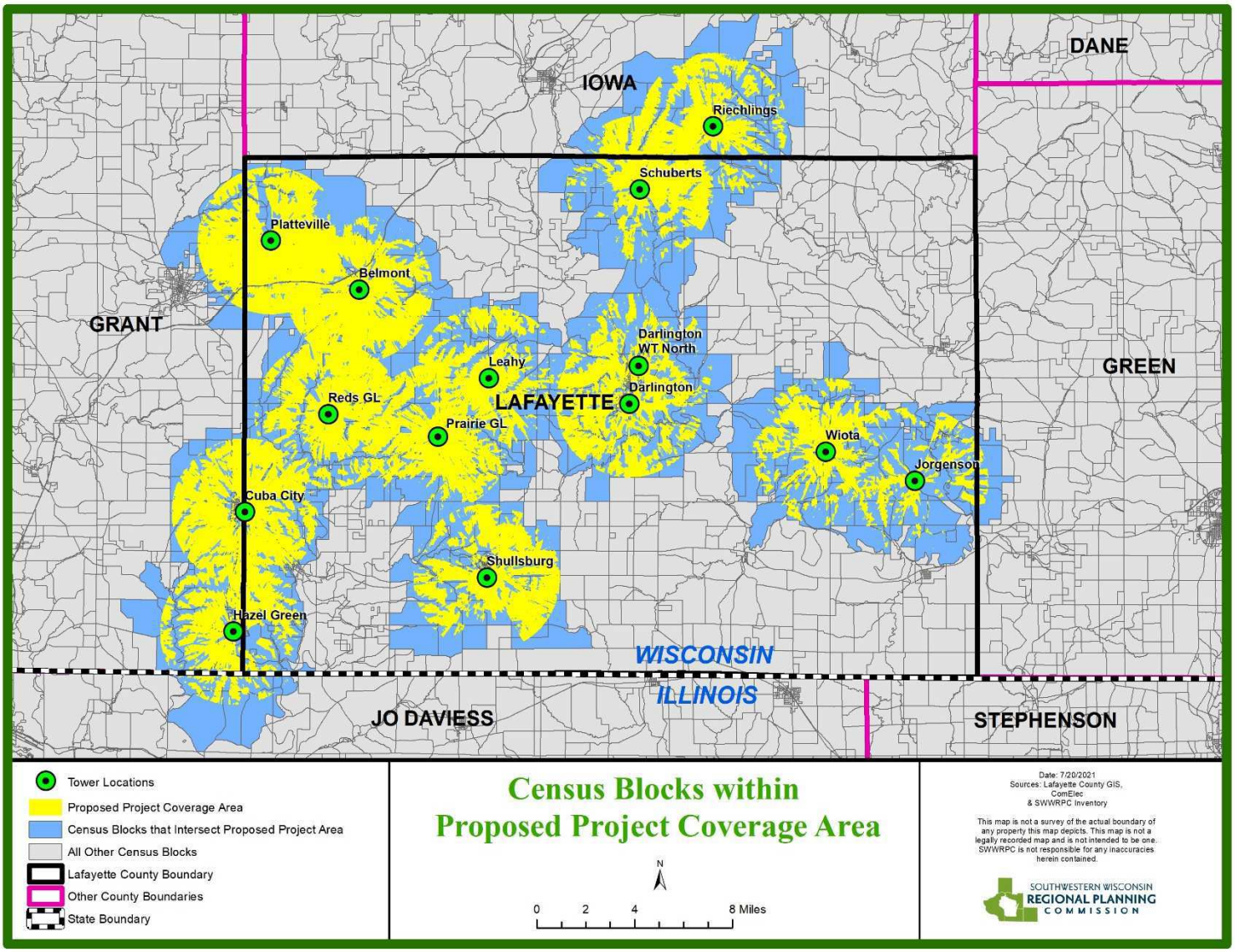
Lafayette Development Corporation
Attn: Abby Haas
627 Washington Street
Darlington, WI 53530
Abby.haas@lafayettecountywi.org
608-776-4860

c. ComElec Internet Services is a for profit organization as defined by Wis. Stat. § 196.504(1).

3.2.2 Description of the project

a. The project encompasses a large portion of Lafayette County including portions of Grant, Iowa and Green Counties. Lafayette County is known for rolling hills, numerous rivers, lakes and streams and abundant green space. Static map on next page.

Map URL:
https://gis.lafayettecountywi.org/FreeDownloads/ComElecLafayetteCountyTowerUpgrades.zip



b. As this application is for fixed wireless broadband, ComElec will be utilizing tower sites to provide service to underserved and unserved areas. Due to the nature of the towers, the towers will inevitably also reach households and businesses within census blocks designated as served. Tower locations were chosen based upon reach to underserved and unserved areas as well as elevation.

c. An explanation of how the proposed project will increase broadband access. Include information about the:

- Potential and expected number of households served, including number of unserved and underserved locations.

Potential Underserved Residential & Businesses	Potential Unserved Residential & Businesses
1,240	233

- Lafayette County has a total of 172 seasonal homes throughout the entire county (*source: 2018 Lafayette County Housing and Workforce Study).* The number of expected seasonal residents to be served is minimal; if any.

- Available Packages:

Monthly Fee	Download Speed/Upload Speed
$55.00	**50 Mbps x 20 Mbps**
$89.00	**100 Mbps x 20 Mbps**
$139	**100 Mbps x 100 Mbps**

d. The proposed project is for middle-mile and last-mile broadband service.

e. ComElec will be using a fixed point wireless system for the distribution to the residential homes and businesses made by Cambium Networks.
The access points will be 450m model in the 5GHz and 3GHz CBRS band. In the CBRS band we own a PAL license which guarantees a clear channel. Once available ComElec will also use the 6GHz band.
ComElec's towers will be connected back to their core via a redundant hybrid middle-mile design. It will utilize two different fiber providers that have a diverse path to core, and licensed microwaves made by Cambium Networks that will also connect to core.
ComElec will be offering packages of up to 100 mbps download speeds and up to 100mb upload speeds. It will be a shared bandwidth solution that uses a proprietary MU-MIMO signal.
The sites will be installed with a range that will help with minimizing interference while maximizing the use of the wireless spectrum.
When the build is completed, the design and installation will conform to all applicable federal, state and local requirements and standard engineering practice and the installed infrastructure will provide the service levels and speeds stated in this application.

f. This is a middle and last-mile project; not applicable.

g. **Schedule:**

Months	Specific and Measurable Milestones
Months 1 to 5	Permits and construction drawings.
Months 6 to 10	FCC Coordination and equipment staging.
Months 11 to 15	Install all equipment.
Months 16 to 20	Configure tune and test equipment.
Months 21 to 24	Install Customers.

3.2.3 **Itemized Budget**

Site	5ghz 450m	3ghz 450m	3ghz Ground	Cat5	DC Cable	Power/Switch/Sync	Tripod	Brackets APs	insulators 2	L-COM	Fuse Block
Platteville Mound	4	4	4	1920	960	1	0	4	8	1	1
Belmont	4	0	0	720	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Reds GL	4	0	0	640	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Cuba City	4	4	4	1600	800	1	0	4	8	1	1
Hazel Green	4	4	4	1600	800	1	0	4	8	1	1
Leahy	4	0	0	720	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Prairie GL	4	0	0	560	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Shullsburg	4	0	0	680	0	1	1	2	4	1	1
Riechlings	4	0	0	440	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Schuberts	4	0	0	720	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Darlington WT N	4	0	0	560	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Darlington	4	4	4	2400	960	1	0	4	8	1	1
Wiota	4	0	0	720	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Jorgenson	4	0	0	400	0	1	0	2	4	1	1
Cost	$5,026.72	$6,394.72	$346.56	$0.18	$0.54	$2,325.19	$856.47	$56.00	$77.00	$283.48	$323.00
Equipment Total QTY	56	16	16	13680	3520	14	1	36	72	14	14
Equipment Total Price	$281,496.32	$102,315.52	$5,544.96	$2,462.40	$1,913.04	$32,552.66	$856.47	$2,016.00	$5,544.00	$3,968.72	$4,522.00
Project Eqipment Total	$443,192.09										
Labor	$22,400.00										
Total Project	$465,592.09										

Price list for equipment, supplies and labor. Please note the designation of “equipment” on the itemized budget does not match the PSC’s description of equipment. On the budget summary page (pg 4), the applicable supplies vs equipment have been designated as such to match the PSC’s description. The tower sites in this application are leased or owned by ComElec Internet Services. Platteville Mound Tower is owned by ComElec, while Cuba City, Hazel Green, Darlington, Belmont, Shullsburg and Wiota are municipality owned structures that ComElec leases space on and Reds GL, Leahy, Prairie GL, Riechlings, Schuberts and Jorgenson are privately owned structures that ComElec leases. This grant application does not require any additional land or building purchases.

a. As the itemized budget pages show, this grant, if awarded, will not subsidize the expenses of a telecommunications provider or the monthly bills of telecommunications customers.

b. The grant funds requested will be used for the sole purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in the areas covered by the application.

3.2.4 Priority factors supporting the application

a. **Matching funds**. Please see page 4.

b. **Public-private partnerships.** Lafayette County, Lafayette Development Corporation and Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin (the regional economic development organization) have passed resolutions for the support of private internet service providers. Please see documentation at the end of this application.

c. **Existing broadband service**. Please see the chart below for existing internet service providers. Please note, the topography of Southwest Wisconsin makes it extremely difficult to gauge actual service available to each individual household and business. We have statements from next-door neighbors indicating that one household has access to broadband service, while the other can only utilize satellite or mobile internet service.

Service Provider	Download/ Upload Speed	Full Price Range	Type of Service
Bug Tussel	12.0 Mbps/3.0 Mbps 25.0 Mbps/5.0 Mbps	$44.99-$99.99	Wireless Broadband
JC Wifi	18.0 Mbps/3.0 Mbps	$24.95-$150	Wireless Broadband
CenturyLink	25.0 Mbps/2.0 Mbps 15.0 Mbps/0.75 Mbps 10.0 Mbps/1.0 Mbps	$50-??	Wireline
HughesNet	25.0 Mbps/3.0 Mbps	$59.99-$149.99	Satellite
ViaSat Inc	35.0 Mbps/3.0 Mbps	$49.99-$149.99	Satellite
Skycasters	2.0 Mbps/1.3 Mbps	$99.00-$499.00	Satellite
Verizon Wireless	N/A	$40-$70	Terrestrial Mobile Wireless
MediaCom	100.0 Mbps/10.0 Mbps	$19.99-$79.99	Cable Modem Wireline
United States Cellular Corporation	2.0 Mbps/0.064 Mbps	$55-??	Terrestrial Mobile Wireless
Rise Broadband	50.0 Mbps/10.0 Mbps	$50-??	Wireless Broadband

d. **Project impact**. This application is aimed to cover a very large portion of Lafayette County. 3,226 of the county's total 7,238 housing units lie within the coverage area which is 44% of Lafayette County's total households. Many community buildings, businesses, farms, EMS and Fire Departments lie within the coverage area and will be able to access high-speed reliable internet if this grant is awarded.

e. **Scalability**. For the proposed project, nodes are able to be added as new subscribers sign-up in order to maintain high speeds without bandwidth slowing service down.
This grant will enable ComElec to provide high speed, low latency broadband with no data caps to unserved and underserved areas. This service will allow customers to subscribe to any streaming service that is available now and any new services that become available in the future. As well as run any program necessary to telecommute, access data, connect with healthcare providers and connect with educational institutions. The proposed sites will be covering small communities and the surrounding rural areas, approximately 44% of Lafayette County homes.

f. **Economic development**.
ComElec prides itself on remaining one of the most affordable Internet option in the Tri-State area. Rates have remained unchanged in recent years to ensure affordability and access to all residents, regardless of income level. It is for that reason that Lafayette County works closely with ComElec to ensure affordable Internet service is available to all residents.
Lafayette County has a declining population and efforts are underway to increase that population. Cost of living is a huge factor when individuals choose to reside in Lafayette County. In today's world of remote work, affordable Internet is crucial for those who make their homes here.
While most local jobs are entry and mid-level manufacturing positions, the ability of industry professionals to continue working for larger urban corporations while living in a rural area is already positively impacting Southwest Wisconsin. Those individuals are buying and building homes at the top of housing market; increasing property taxes and positively contributing to society by buying from local shops, gas stations and service providers and utilizing local hospitals, clinic and other health services.
Manufacturers and area farmers also rely on high-speed reliable internet to run their businesses which are crucial to the economic health of Lafayette County. Long gone are the days of pen and paper, farmers and manufacturers alike rely on the internet to run successful businesses.
Lafayette County believes that the expansion of broadband in Southwest Wisconsin will provide growth and diversification of our economy. Businesses, schools, residents, visitors, healthcare facilities, educational institutions and public service sector all can be improved with greater broadband access and access to evolving technologies. Lafayette County wants to ensure residents have the level of connectivity they need to be successful, and to be able to apply for high paying job opportunities where telecommuting is an option.
Overall, Lafayette County believes that internet access is crucial for businesses, students and residents to be connected so they can focus on growth and expansion, not struggle because of the lack of infrastructure in their community.

g. **Effect upon broadband service to adjacent areas**. The proposed project will not impair the ability of broadband service providers to extend broadband service to areas adjacent to the proposed project area. ComElec currently works with many other service providers on last-mile projects and due to ComElec's cost saving strategy that utilizes existing structures, there are still many areas that are in need of broadband improvement where a tower structure will need to be erected which is a better fit for other broadband providers' business model.

3.2.5 Other information supporting the application

RESOLUTION NO. 36 -14

In Support of Improved Broadband Internet Access in Lafayette County

WHEREAS, improved high speed (broadband) access is an essential infrastructure for Lafayette County and its citizens to remain competitive in the areas of economic development, education, healthcare, public safety, communication, entertainment, and other future uses; *and*

WHEREAS, significant portions of Lafayette County are below average in Internet speed, adoption and capacity compared to the rest of the state, nation and worldwide competitors; *and*

WHEREAS, Lafayette County, working in partnership with private providers, can serve as a catalyst for supporting improvements in broadband access in the County; *and*

WHEREAS, the cooperation among county, town and city government with providers will be necessary to ensure success; *and*

WHEREAS, both public and private involvement is essential in the development of a broadband improvement plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses and establishes as a goal that Lafayette County will pursue the best possible broadband access in terms of speed, adoption rate and data capacity for all of its businesses and citizens.

Adopted this 12th day of November, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

LAFAYETTE COUNTY ECOMOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Carol Korn, Chairperson

Bob Boyle

Paul "Zeke" Garthwaite

David Halloran

Dwayne Larson

Ted Wiegel

LEGAL NOTE: Advisory resolution only; within County Board authority.
FISCAL NOTE: No direct fiscal impact.

I, Linda L. Bawden, Clerk of the County of Lafayette, State of Wisconsin, do certify that this resolution was adopted by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on Dec. 16, 2014.

Linda L. Bawden, Lafayette County Clerk

RESOLUTION 18-02
OF
Lafayette Development Corporation

The Lafayette Development Corporation ("LDC"), hereby consents to the following resolutions, with said consent to have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote thereon:

WHEREAS, ComElec Internet ("ComElec") desires to commence a project consisting of the construction and operation of certain wireless communications services to provide the most advanced infrastructure to unserved and underserved residents of Lafayette County;

WHEREAS, The LDC, in recognition of the broadband underserved areas of its community, seeks to enter into a quasi-public/private venture to obtain, maintain and increase broadband coverage for the support of education, health care, growth of business, retention of existing business, tourism promotion, and overall economic vitality and sustainability;

WHEREAS, The LDC desires to pursue Broadband Expansion Grants offered by and through the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission;

WHEREAS, ComElec is willing and able to partner with the LDC to provide the latest advancements in broadband coverage and to seek all available grants available to provide and subsidize the cost of necessary broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The LDC desires to pursue and make application for any and all grant money available for broadband coverage with the assistance of ComElec.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the undersigned as follows:

RESOLVED, that the LDC authorizes the application to the State of Wisconsin Public Service for broadband expansion grants in partnership with ComElec; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the LDC, subject to additional negotiations and approvals, will enter into a Development Agreement by and between ComElec; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the duly appointed LDC representative is authorized to do all such acts and to execute, acknowledge and deliver all such documents as he or she may be authorized by the LDC Board to be necessary or desirable in order to carry out and comply with the terms and provisions of these resolutions, and all of the acts of the LDC which are in conformity with the intent and purposes of these resolutions, whether previously or subsequently taken or done, are in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that all prior acts of the LDC in furtherance of the transactions contemplated by the within resolutions be and are hereby approved.

Dated: January 23, 2018

By: Gary McCree

Its: President LDC

Copy 1

RESOLUTION 2018- 01
OF
Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin
In Support of Lafayette County

Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin (PSW), hereby consents to the following resolutions, with said consent to have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote thereon:

WHEREAS, improved high speed (broadband) access is an essential infrastructure for the County of Lafayette, its businesses and residents; along with those businesses and residents in areas around Lafayette County to remain competitive in the areas of economic development, education, healthcare, public safety, communication, entertainment and other future uses; and

WHEREAS, The PSW working in partnership with private providers, can serve as a catalyst for supporting improvements in broadband access in the County; and

WHEREAS, Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin, in recognition of the broadband underserved areas of its community, seeks to enter into a quasi-public/private venture to obtain, maintain and increase broadband coverage for the support of education, health care, growth of business, retention of existing business, tourism promotion, and overall economic vitality and sustainability;

WHEREAS, the cooperation among county, town and city government with providers will be necessary to ensure success; and

WHEREAS, Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin desires to pursue Broadband Expansion Grants offered by and through the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission;

WHEREAS, Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin desires to pursue and make application for any and all grant money available for broadband coverage.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the undersigned as follows:

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the duly appointed PSW representative is authorized to do all such acts and to execute, acknowledge and deliver all such documents as he or she may be authorized by the PSW Board to be necessary or desirable in order to carry out and comply with the terms and provisions of these resolutions, and all of the acts of PSW which are in conformity with the intent and purposes of these resolutions, whether previously or subsequently taken or done, are in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.

Dated: 1-19, 2018

By: [signature]

Its: VP

Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin also pledges match funds in the amount of $ 1000.00 in support of this grant application.

LAFAYETTE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

March 10, 2022

Wisconsin Broadband Office
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705
To Whom it May Concern,

We at Lafayette Development Corporation, would like to voice our strong support for the expansion of broadband across Lafayette County and Grant County in southwest Wisconsin. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high-speed internet in the area.

Lafayette Development Corporation has partnered with ComElec Internet Services to increase broadband access across both Lafayette and Grant Counties for all of our residents and businesses.

With Covid, the issues surrounding broadband have only become more apparent. Our school districts, when classes were held virtually, had many students who did not have access to reliable internet to attend class. This poses tremendous obstacles to their education. Even though we are, thankfully, back in person for school now, reliable internet access continues to be a needed tool for research, homework, communications and additional educational materials. We hope that soon, every household and student within Grant County will have access to affordable, reliable, high speed internet as a tool for success in their current schooling, and their futures.

We no longer can have our essential services; healthcare, education and public services limited due to our situation with broadband access. We have seen a unification of our local resources through this pandemic to promote the expansion of broadband and hope that this effort will soon resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

Gary McCrea
President LDC

Gary McCrea
President

March 12, 2022
Wisconsin Broadband Office
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

To Whom it May Concern,

We at Lafayette County, would like to voice our strong support for the expansion of broadband across Lafayette County and Grant County in southwest Wisconsin. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high-speed internet in the area.

Lafayette County Economic Development will partner with ComElec Internet Services for all grant applications in Lafayette County and provide $500.00 cash match to support the expansion of broadband services.

With Covid, the issues surrounding broadband have only become more apparent. Our school districts, when classes were held virtually, had many students who did not have access to reliable internet to attend class. This poses tremendous obstacles to their education. Even though we are, thankfully, back in person for school now, reliable internet access continues to be a needed tool for research, homework, communications and additional educational materials. We hope that soon, every household and student within Lafayette County will have access to affordable, reliable, high speed internet as a tool for success in their current schooling, and their futures.

We no longer can have our essential services; healthcare, education and public services limited due to our situation with broadband access. We have seen a unification of our local resources through this pandemic to promote the expansion of broadband and hope that this effort will soon resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

Carol Korn
Chairman Ec Dev

Carol Korn
Chair of Economic Development
Lafayette County

March 15, 2022

Wisconsin Broadband Office
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

To Whom it May Concern,

We at Grant County Economic Development Corporation, would like to voice our strong support for the expansion of broadband across Grant County and Lafayette County in southwest Wisconsin. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high-speed internet in the area.

We have partnered with ComElec Internet Services to identify the areas where broadband access need is the greatest across Grant and Lafayette Counties

With Covid, the issues surrounding broadband have only become more apparent. Our school districts, when classes were held virtually, had many students who did not have access to reliable internet to attend class. This poses tremendous obstacles to their education. Even though we are, thankfully, back in person for school now, reliable internet access continues to be a needed tool for research, homework, communications and additional educational materials. We hope that soon, every household and student within Southwest Wisconsin will have access to affordable, reliable, high speed internet as a tool for success in their current schooling, and their futures.

We no longer can have our essential services; healthcare, education and public services limited due to our situation with broadband access. We have seen a unification of our local resources through this pandemic to promote the expansion of broadband and hope that this effort will soon resolve this issue.

Grant County Development Corporation will also provide $1,000 in cash match to all of ComElec's Grant Applications that service Grant County municipalities.

Sincerely,

Ron Brisbois

Ron Brisbois
Exec Director

GRANT COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.
WE'VE GOT THE CORNER ON GOOD BUSINESS

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

March 10, 2022

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
4822 Madison Yards Way
North Tower - 6th Floor
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

RE: Lafayette County Broadband Expansion

Dear Public Service Commission:

I am writing to request your consideration of applications from ComElec Internet Services that will significantly expand broadband acess in Lafayette and Grant Counties.

The applications address many underserved and unserved areas as well as increase existing broadband services to 100 Mbps download speed from the previously available 25 Mbps download speed.

Reliable internet is vital for our rural communities in southwest Wisconsin. These four applications from ComElec will directly impact our underserved/unserved areas in Lafayette County and provide necessary broadband for those who are working from home, accessing virtual healthcare appointments, and attending educational classes online.

Thank you again for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may provide additional information or input.

Sincerely,

Howard Marklein
State Senator
17th Senate District
(608)-266-0703

March 12, 2022

Wisconsin Broadband Office
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705
To Whom it May Concern,

We at Prosperity Southwest, would like to voice our strong support for the expansion of broadband across Lafayette County in southwest Wisconsin. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high-speed internet in the area.

PSW is dedicated to assisting ComElec Internet Services in broadband expansion across all of Southwest Wisconsin and will partner and collaborate to ensure increased access for residents and businesses.

With Covid, the issues surrounding broadband have only become more apparent. Our school districts, when classes were held virtually, had many students who did not have access to reliable internet to attend class. This poses tremendous obstacles to their education. Even though we are, thankfully, back in person for school now, reliable internet access continues to be a needed tool for research, homework, communications and additional educational materials. We hope that soon, every household and student within Southwest Wisconsin will have access to affordable, reliable, high speed internet as a tool for success in their current schooling, and their futures.

We no longer can have our essential services; healthcare, education and public services limited due to our situation with broadband access. We have seen a unification of our local resources through this pandemic to promote the expansion of broadband and hope that this effort will soon resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

Abby Haas, President
Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin

On behalf of the Prosperity Southwest Board of Directors

Prosperity Southwest Wisconsin
contact@prosperitysouthwest.com
608-571-3864

TRAVIS TRANEL

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 49th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-1170
Toll-Free: (888) 872-0049
Rep.Tranel@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

March 11, 2022

Mr. Dennis Klaila
Public Service Commission
610 North Whitney Way
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Public Service Commission:

I would like to express my support for the upgrade and installation of 100 Mbps download speed broadband service throughout Lafayette and Grant Counties in southwest Wisconsin. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high speed internet in the area.

The issues surrounding broadband have only become more apparent especially during the Covid pandemic. Our school districts, when classes were held virtually, had many students who did not have access to reliable internet to attend class. This poses tremendous obstacles to their education. Even though we are, thankfully, back in person for school now, reliable internet access continues to be a needed tool for research, homework, communications and additional educational materials. We hope that soon, every household and student within Lafayette County will have access to affordable, reliable, high speed internet as a tool for success in their current schooling, and their futures.

We no longer can have our essential services; healthcare, education and public services limited due to our situation with broadband access. We have seen a unification of our local resources through this pandemic to promote the expansion of broadband and hope that this effort will soon resolve this issue.

I urge you to support this application and request that your award this broadband application to address the urgent needs of residents in our area for faster broadband services.

Sincerely,

Travis Tranel
49th Assembly District
State Representative

TODD NOVAK

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 51ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-7502
Toll-Free: (888) 534-0051
Rep.Novak@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

3/15/2022

Wisconsin Broadband Office
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Hill Farms State Office Building
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Broadband Expansion Grant Review Committee,

I would like to express my support for awarding a Broadband Expansion grant funding for ComElec's exchange service area in Lafayette County. The project proposes to provide 100 x 100 fixed wireless service to Lafayette County residents and businesses in underserved and unserved areas.

Improving broadband access and speeds in rural areas, such as those surrounding Darlington, is costly due to low customer density. Access to broadband is seen as essential to the growth and diversification of our economy. It has become increasingly difficult for our businesses and schools to compete with the limited access to high speed internet in the area.

I continue to hear from numerous constituents struggling with lack of access to high speed internet. Residents in the rural areas of Lafayette County need improved broadband service for business, education, and telehealth. Without these improvements the area will struggle provide quality essential services including healthcare, education and other public services as a result of unreliable broadband access. That is why I am hoping you consider ComElec for this grant in order to address the urgent needs of residents in Lafayette County.

Sincerely,

State Representative
51st Assembly District
Wisconsin Legislature